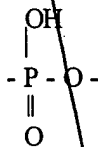


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wherein PM is a phosphate moiety, SM is a sugar moiety, and BASE is a pyrimidine, purine or 7-deazapurine moiety, PM being attached to the 3' or the 5' position of the sugar moiety when said nucleotide is a deoxyribonucleotide and at the 2', 3' or 5' positions of SM when said nucleotide is a ribonucleotide, said BASE being attached to the 1' position of SM from the N¹ position when BASE is a pyrimidine or the N⁹ position when BASE is a purine or 7-deazapurine, and said Sig is a detectable moiety covalently attached to PM directly or through a linkage group. --

-- 264. (New) A composition of claim 263, wherein the chemical linkage has the formula:



F1 cont -- 265. (New) The compositions according to claim 263, wherein the linkage group comprises a member selected from the group consisting of an olefinic bond at the α -position relative to the point of attachment to the nucleotide, a -CH₂NH- moiety, and both. --

-- 266. (New) The composition according to claim 263, wherein the linkage group comprises an allylamine group. --

--267. (New) The composition according to claim 263, wherein the phosphate moiety is mono-, di- or tri-phosphate and the chemical moiety is covalently attached to the phosphate moiety through a phosphate oxygen. --

-- 268. (New) A composition comprising claim 263, and a polypeptide capable of forming a complex with Sig. --

--269. (New) The composition according to claim 268, further comprising a detectable moiety which can be detected when such complex is formed. --

-270. (New) The composition according to claim 268, wherein said polypeptide comprises a polylysine. --

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--271. (New) The composition according to claim 268, wherein said polypeptide comprises at least one member selected from the group consisting of avidin, streptavidin and anti-Sig immunoglobulin. --

-- 272. (New) The composition according to claim 268, wherein Sig comprises a ligand and said polypeptide comprises an antibody thereto.--

--273. (New) The composition according to claim 269, wherein said detectable moiety is selected from the group consisting of biotin, iminobiotin, an electron dense component, a magnetic component, an enzyme, a hormone component, a radioactive component, a metal-containing component, a fluorescent component, a chemiluminescent component, an antigen, a hapten and an antibody component. --

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-- 274. (New) The composition according to claim 263, wherein said polymeric component is selected from the group consisting of an oligo- or polynucleotide, an oligo- or polypeptide, and an oligo- or polysaccharide. --

-- 275. (New) The composition according to claim 274, wherein said polymeric component comprises an oligo- or polynucleotide. --

-- 276. (New) The composition according to claim 275, wherein said oligo- or polynucleotide comprises an oligo- or polydeoxyribonucleotide. --

--277. (New) The composition according to claim 275, wherein said oligo- or polynucleotide comprises an oligo- or polyribonucleotide. --

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested. Claims 204-224 and 227-262 were pending in the subject application. Applicants have added new claims 263-277 hereinabove. Accordingly, claims 204-224 and 227-277 are now under consideration.

In the June 20, 1996 Office Action, the Examiner objected to the specification because